

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/AU00/01187

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int. Cl. ⁷: H01M 8/10, H01M 4/66

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC⁷ AS ABOVE

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
IPC⁷ AS ABOVE

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
Derwent WPAT: IPC⁷ as above and tubul+ and Nickel

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 55016 A1 (Westinghouse Electric Corp) 30 June 1982 Whole Document	33
X	EP 442742 A1 (NGK Insulators Ltd) 21 August 1991 Whole Document	33
A	US 5085742 A (Dollard et al) 4 February 1992 Whole Document	

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C ☒ See patent family annex

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
 "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date
 "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
 "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
 "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
 "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
 "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
 "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search
2 November 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report
13 NOV 2000

Name and mailing address of the ISA/AU

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Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos :
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. ☐ Claims Nos :
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

3. ☐ Claims Nos :
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a)

Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. Claims 1 to 32 relate to a tubular fuel cell assembly having a tubular metallic structure formed of nickel or nickel alloy that is at least partially embedded in the anode layer
 2. Claims 33 to 50 relate to a tubular fuel cell assembly having a cathode layer that is discontinuous along the length of the assembly to provide a plurality of longitudinally spaced cathode portions.
There is no common novel element or inventive concept to linking these separate inventions into a unified whole.
1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims
 2. ☒ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
 3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

 4. ☐ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
Information on patent family members

International application No.
PCT/AU00/01187

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report				Patent Family Member			
EP	55016	AU	76367/81	BR	8107177	CA	1164042
		ES	508215	ES	8305536	JP	57130381
		MX	156109	NO	813858	NZ	198756
		ZA	8107158	US	4490444		
EP	442742	CA	2036366	JP	3241670	US	5209989
		JP	3238760				
US	5085742	AU	79408/91	CA	2045770	EP	481679
		JP	4334869	NO	913891		
END OF ANNEX							